

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action issued with respect the present RCE application, the Applicant submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment:

In the Amendment;
independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the ink supply harness comprises printhead hoses attached to the printhead, reservoir hoses attached to the reservoirs, and a self-sealing disconnect coupling which disconnectedly couples the printhead hoses to the reservoir hoses. Support for these amendments can be found at page 41, lines 1-6 and Fig. 11 of the present application; and
dependent claims 5, 12, 13, 17, 18, 21-31, 37-42, 44, 45 and 47-49 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 5, 12, 13, 17, 18, 21-31, 37-42, 44, 45 and 47-49 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of previously cited Martin, Nozawa, Coiner, Goldstein, Silverbrook, Rasmussen and Austin, for at least the following reasons.

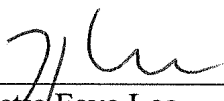
The Examiner contends that in Coiner element 204 corresponds to ink supply hoses attached to the printhead and element 202 corresponds to ink supply hoses attached to the reservoirs. However, Coiner discloses that the "hoses 204" connect the "reservoirs 202" to the print cartridges 16 (see col. 7, lines 48-67 and Fig. 21).

Accordingly, neither Coiner, nor the other cited references, teach or suggest an ink supply harness which has separate printhead hoses and reservoir hoses which are disconnectedly coupled by a self-sealing disconnect coupling, as is required by the claimed invention.


It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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